

# City of LaVerkin

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## LaVerkin City Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 17, 2013 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 111 S. Main, LaVerkin, Utah

**Present:** Mayor Karl Wilson; Council-Members: Randy Reeve, Richard Hirschi, Phil Jensen, and Ray Justice; Staff: Kyle Gubler, Kevin Bennett, Derek Imlay, Troylinn Benson, Chief Lloyd Watkins, and Christy Ballard; Public: Pam Lisonbee, Chief Tom Kuhlmann, Shantell Browning, Travis Romney, and Jake Bulkley.

*Councilman Brandon Stephenson has been excused.*

**A. Called to Order** – Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Phil Jensen at 6:00pm.

**B. Presentations:**

1. Mayor Wilson thanked Pam Lisonbee for running the Easter Egg hunt. It takes a lot of time, organization, and effort to put on this event and its over in about three minutes. Pam was awarded with a certificate and a gift card to Farmer's Market.

Pam thanked the Mayor and Council for the gift card and certificate and said that if they really wanted to thank her for doing the hunt they would fix the road 100 south.

**C. Consent Agenda:** (Items on the consent agenda may not require discussion. These items will be a single motion unless removed at the request of the Mayor or City Council.)

1. Declarations of conflict of interest
2. Agenda
3. April 3, 2013 regular meeting minutes
4. Review Invoices and Checks: \$116,678.25

Councilman Jensen declared a conflict of interest.

**Motion was made by Councilman Ray Justice to approve the consent agenda including checks and invoices in the balance of \$116,678.25 second by Councilman Richard Hirschi. Roll Call Vote: Reeve-yes, Hirschi-yes, Jensen-yes, Justice-yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

**D. Committee Reports:**

1. Planning Commission – Councilman Hirschi reported that the Planning Commission is starting to discuss property size requirements for different types of animals.

Kevin reported that the Planning Commission was very pleased to hear that the City Council passed both the Hillside and the R-3-6 zone change ordinances.

2. Water Board – Has not met since last meeting.
3. Sewer Board-Blair was not present to report.
4. Fire District-Chief Kuhlman reported that Saturday has 5 different special events going on so they will be busy.

The State has sent notification to Chief that they plan on being very active in billing for fire response this year. The State Code reads that they cannot send bills to the City they have to be sent to the County. The County can send bills to cities if they choose to. That means if La Verkin has any State or Federal lands within its boarder and there is a fire on that property the State is the entity that controls the fire and they can call in whatever resources they feel necessary to suppress that fire and based on percentage of the property that falls within the city limits they expect us to pay that portion of the bill.

Mayor Wilson asked if the bill would be the City's responsibility or the Districts.

Chief replied that under Code it is the City's but the stance that has always been taken with them is that they can't send the District a bill it has to go through the County. He is expecting a call from Washington County on how they want to deal with reimbursement.

Chief explained how this issue was being addressed four years ago but then it lost its priority. It sounds like it may be an issue again.

Mayor Wilson reported that La Verkin received a bill in the past for an air drop when the property by the "L" had a fire. A letter was written and La Verkin did not have to pay the bill.

Chief stated that his stance is this is your property and this is our area. We are not authorizing it, if the property owner chooses to authorize it the District will not reimburse them.

Mayor Wilson pointed out that if the State hits a small city like La Verkin with a \$20,000-\$100,000 bill it could take years to recoup.

Chief Kuhlmann suggested looking into possibly annexing undevelopable property then the responsibility would fall on the property owner or the State.

Councilman Justice asked if the State plans on pursuing the people responsible for starting the fire.

Chief answered that they do. Historically the District has always had the option but unless it has been a very strong criminal act the District has chosen not to.

Councilman Justice suggested publicizing the fact that the State is planning on being more aggressive in holding people responsible if they start a fire. That may make people re-think what they do.

**E. Citizen Comment & Request for Future Agenda Items:**

No comments were made.

**F. Business:**

1. Discussion and possible action to approve Resolution No. R-2013-09; A resolution confirming the City's Employee On-Call/Call-Out Policy and revising the City's Personnel Policy to establish a City Vehicle Policy to be effective 1 July 2013.

Kyle explained that the Employee On-Call policy was passed in 2008. It was included in the packet for the Councilmembers to review.

Staff went through and put together the City's Personnel Policy based on the comments from the March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. That too was in the packet for review.

Kevin has added a couple of things. A main issue of concern in other towns has been where the City vehicle is allowed to go on out of town trips and gave an example of why that could be a concern.

So a section dealing with that has been added.

The other part is Exhibit A. This topic was discussed five years ago and the Employee On-Call policy was revised and cleaned up then. Exhibit A is there to reaffirm that policy and marry the two policies together.

Councilman Hirschi said that in Exhibit A section B number 2b says 20 minutes. In a different copy of the policy and procedures it stated 30 minutes.

Mayor Wilson explained that the policy has been 20 minutes since 2006.

Kevin commented that this is only for staff that is on call. Not supervisors or police.

Councilman Justice pointed out a typo in number 18 of Exhibit B. It reads, may be are subject. It should read may be subject.

The front page of the resolution has the letter b listed twice.

Councilman Hirschi said that number 16 has employees hired after July 1, 2013 can drive their vehicles home if they live less than 10 miles from the city limits and asked if everyone was comfortable with that number.

Councilman Justice feels that the number should be more than 10 miles. It limits the ability to hire qualified people. He also commented that he feels it wiser to allow the employees to take their tools home with them so they are able to respond faster and not have to worry about switching out vehicles.

Councilman Reeve commented that not allowing employees to take the vehicle home does not restrict who applies for the job or who can be hired.

Councilman Justice replied he thinks that it does. Police officers don't get paid much and one of the benefits for them is having a car to take home. He thinks 30 miles is a better number.

Councilman Reeve said that his issue with that is if there is a big emergency and the officer lives 30 miles away, they won't be here in time anyway. The County backs us up right now.

Councilman Hirschi asked if the County have had to help cover La Verkin now we are short an officer.

Chief replied that no, he is handling the day shift.

He also commented that it is hard to recruit qualified police officers to a small town. It is not listed on the application that there is or is not a take home car but some people do ask that and it is a huge benefit.

Councilman Hirschi asked if fuel costs are included in the Chief's budget.

Chief Watkins replied that he keeps track of fuel costs and mileage monthly. It is included in his budget.

Councilman Justice pointed out that as a department head that has to keep to a budget it would on your mind during the hiring process. Both the longevity of an employee and how much they would drain your budget.

Officer Jake Bulkley commented that he is a police officer 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. He has made traffic stops on attempt to locate vehicles or drunk driving, put out car fires on his way to and from work. He lives 22 miles from La Verkin. He does realize money is an issue but if he doesn't have the tools to respond appropriately it is putting the community at risk.

The other thing he mentioned was there is a Springdale police officer that lives less than two blocks from him and it is not an issue for him.

Mayor Wilson said that he has noticed St. George police cars parked in Hurricane. A County car in La Verkin and in the past we have had St. George cars.

He recommends 25-30 miles.

He asked if there were any other issues the councilmembers would like changed.

Councilman Reeve would like Exhibit B first page section A. The last paragraph reads at the discretion of the Mayor/City Administrator of La Verkin. He would like it to say Mayor and City Council/ City Administrator. That way one person cannot change policy.

Mayor Wilson stated it is not changing policy.

Kevin said that it is not changing policy it is changing application. Changing it would mean if something comes up while staff is at training etc a meeting would have to be called and advertised to handle the situation. That is why executive authority is given to an individual to make the day to day decisions.

Mayor Wilson brought a copy of the chain of command and the flow chart of the way La Verkin is ran that was adopted by a previous city council. He feels that changing this would be micro managing by policy. He trusts the Directors and the Administrator. Making the suggested change would change the flow chart and the way the city is ran in his opinion.

Kevin explained that every time something comes up a meeting would need to be called and advertised before a decision could be made. The Mayor and/or the City Administrator are who typically handles it. The legislator creates policy but doesn't apply it. The councilmembers individually don't have any power; they are part of a body and that body is who does the work.

Councilman Reeve stated that he interpreted it to be that the Mayor or City Administrator was able to make changes permanently.

He also said that he wanted this policy because he feels the City has been abusing the tax payer's money. He found out that a police officer was taking personal classes and driving a company car to those classes and was also driving the City car to another job. So from here on out there will at least be a policy.

The Mayor felt that was an administrative call and agreed that the policy needed to be tightened up but he also felt that there was a tendency to micro manage through it.

Chief commented that was restricted.

Kevin stated that a policy is guidance that can be used for disciplinary action if needed and can be changed at any time if needed.

Mayor Wilson stated that there are two points that need to be decided on. Exhibit B Subsection 8 #A, does the mayor need to be taken off and Richard and Randy both want to leave the 10 mile radius on numbers 8 and 16. Are there any other points that the council would like changed.

Councilman Reeve asked if subsection C 11c number 4 states 30 miles that can be traveled but subsection B 2 b lists 20 minutes. Are they contradicting each other?



Kevin answered that they are not contradicting each other. When either one can apply the more restrictive is followed. This is basically granting the directors not having to take vacation leave just to travel to St. George. Derek and Doug are always on call so this is governing what they do all the time.

Councilman Hirschi asked if Derek or Doug goes out of town for any reason do they let someone know.

Mayor Wilson replied that is a department call but they do work it out with each other. That doesn't have anything to do with this issue.

The third issue was clarified so the two changes requested are on number 8 and 16.

Councilman Justice would like number 16 changed to 30 miles.

Kyle pointed out that number 8 is just defining what is considered local. So that can be left.

Number 18 should be number 17.

Councilman Jensen feels that we do need to account for the money, it is very important but the health, safety, and welfare of our citizens is upmost what has to be done. He asked Officer Bulkley what his procedure would be if he received an emergency call.

Officer Bulkley replied that he would put on a shirt identifying him as a police officer, grab his tools and gun get in the vehicle and find out from dispatch if he needed lights and sirens or if normal speed would be fine. He has never had to respond with lights and sirens from his home in the 31/2 years he has worked for the City.

Councilman Jensen said that he does understand the money issue but does not want to limit the quality and type of individual that can be hired. Chief Watkins has a budget he has to stick to, if we go for a certain amount of miles and it is not working in a year we can make changes whether it's because of the budget or if we have an emergency and our officers are not able to respond in time. The reason he feels some leeway should be given is because if we don't have what we consider to be the best employee those types of things could happen anyway. He wants the best people we can get and feels that although saving money is important that is not where the abuse comes from. If the Councilmembers see money being spent inappropriately that needs to be stopped by the department head. If that doesn't take care of the issue then the policy needs to be revisited. At this point he wants to look at it in a good way and see how it pans out and then change it if needed.

When the councilmembers get calls from citizens a lot of times the citizens don't have the whole story. After finding everything out it usually ends with the citizens admitting they didn't realize all of the circumstances that played into the issue. His point is with the money and perceived things. The City Council needs to create the best policy they can, if it doesn't work then it needs to be changed and if it does work it may need to be explained how and why it is working. Therefore he does not feel comfortable limiting the ability to take vehicles home or limiting the mileage particularly the police officers who are always on call.

He would like to either not limit the miles, let the Police Chief handle it or limit it to 25 miles and if that doesn't work change it later.

Councilman Justice said that he does not want the directors or the employees to feel they are not trusted and thinks if it's not broke don't fix it.

Mayor Wilson feels that the majority of this policy is good. He doesn't want to limit where an officer can live. Police officers are not just a city limit thing it's a community thing. They back each other up. He feels the benefit the City gets far outweighs the amount Chief Watkins puts in his budget. To be a

community player he agrees 25 miles is good and recommends passing this policy as written with the exception of changing number 16 to either 25 or 30 miles.

**Motion was made by Councilman Ray Justice to approve Ordinance No. R-2013-09 as written with a change to item number 16 from 10 miles to 30 miles and changing item number 18 to be number 17 and removing the “are” so it will read may be subject to disciplinary action. Motion dies for lack of a second.**

Councilman Jensen feels that 25 miles is an appropriate amount.

**Motion was made by Councilman Ray Justice to approve Ordinance No. R-2013-09 as written with a change to item number 16 from 10 miles to 25 miles and changing item number 18 to be number 17 and removing the “are” so it will read may be subject to disciplinary action and removing the second (b) from number 3 on the Resolution, second by Councilman Phil Jensen. Roll Call Vote: Reeve-yes, Hirschi-yes, Jensen-yes, Justice-yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **G. Work Session:**

##### **1. 2013-2014 FY Budget**

Mayor Wilson sent out an email to the councilmembers of the budget. He also has hard copies available. Pelorus gave us some new budget tools so that packet lists the 2011, 2012, and 2013 actual numbers. Both documents have the 2014 budget. The packet that is horizontal is out of Pelorus.

Mayor Wilson made one correction on his spread sheet, on page 11 where it states Non-Operating Items and Non-Operating Income it was put in as a negative figure instead of positive. So change that to positive and the second line from the bottom which reads \$(91,724) should be \$(81,724) the bottom line should be \$(99,724) instead of \$(109,724). The Pelorus packet is correct.

In the past the City Council has asked the Mayor to balance the budget and then bring it to City Council but this year with the difference in philosophy he has decided to not balance the budget but bring it to the Council and have them give the Mayor direction. It can be done line by line or by department.

Councilman Hirschi would like to go by department.

Mayor Wilson started in the General Fund.

It is not balanced. He explained that the Total Revenue needs to balance with the Total Expenditures.

The Mayor then went through each department.

Building and Grounds changes a lot, in the current year the City has spent a lot but there have been a lot of projects like the roof and the animal shelter.

Public Safety has increased. Chief Watkins has requested a fourth officer split between this department and Animal Control.

Fire has nothing there because we are now in the District.

Mayor Wilson explained that a lot of this is a wish list. If all of the Department heads gave him a budget, he took the highest line item in most areas.

The increase under Highways is from the Mayor. He raised Street Improvements because the City wanted to do 1/5 each year on the street emulsion and we are falling behind so he is trying to catch up. It does not cover any replacement.

Community and Economic Development increased to cover the website change.

The Mayor asked what direction the Council would like him to go on the General Fund.

Chief Watkins explained that another officer will help with animal control.

He would like to always have an officer on duty so they can respond to 100% of the calls. That takes a minimum of 5 men. He would also like to keep the average of officer per residence. Right now with the last stats from BCI which is from 2011 La Verkin is .96. The next closest in Washington County is 1.35 officers per 1,000 and 1.42 per 1,000. If La Verkin gets one more officer that will put us a 1.2, which is still less than everybody else.

BCI has La Verkin listed as having 4166 citizens. That is the number Chief used.

Chief read the other communities in Washington County's stats including the County's.

Our calls for service have not decreased. Chief was supposed to go to training on Monday but had 12 service calls so he was not able to go.

He understands the money can only go so far but he would like the Councilmen to consider another officer.

The other item he has on the list is another vehicle. All of the vehicles have over 100,000 miles on them.

His plan is to get a new vehicle every year so that when they reach 80,000 miles they can be traded in.

They have still retained enough of their value that another car can be purchased for about ½ the cost of a new vehicle and it keeps are cars in good working shape.

The new vehicle is included on line 4210.810 under Public Safety.

Mayor Wilson explained that right now the vehicle is included in Public Safety under the Lease Payment line. If this item is passed he will create another GL line.

Councilman Hirschi asked if \$23,000 would be enough to include the lights, sirens and radio.

Chief Watkins replied that it would be close. It would depend on the type of vehicle that was purchased. Some of those items may be taken from our other vehicles.

There was a discussion on how much the last vehicle cost that was purchased.

Chief stated that he would like a new truck. They seem to have the highest resale value.

Councilman Reeve has done some research as well. He too feels that trucks have the highest resale value. He would like to have a written plan that includes factual numbers on the purchase price and resale value of different types of vehicles.

Chief will put that together for the council.

Councilman Reeve would also like to include a paint job for all of the vehicles so they look nice.

Mayor Wilson reported that the cost would be about \$1,000 per car. Do we want the Chief to come up with the design? Whatever is chosen make sure La Verkin is spelled right. The corporation is with the space and a capital V.

Councilman Hirschi would like the insignia bigger except on an undercover car.

Officer Bulkley reported that there are some advantages and disadvantages to having a large insignia.

Chief Watkins and his officers can come up with different options for the design.

Mayor Wilson suggested waiting until it has been approved in the budget before any time is spent on finding a design.

Kyle commented that there are a couple of options with painting a car. Actually painting the car will be expensive you can also purchase the color of vehicle you want and have the sticker put on it. He thought a new paint job will be about \$1,500.

Councilman Jensen asked what the difference in the last few months has been with the animal control.

Chief Watkins answered that the budget has gone down because there hasn't been any wages paid out of it. The number of calls is hard to tell because everything has been going through dispatch. There were three animal control calls on Monday.

Mayor Wilson asked what the councilmen wanted to do to bridge the gap. Adding the \$3,000 for new paint jobs just widened it.

Councilman Hirschi asked Derek if he had anything he would like to have.

Mayor Wilson stated that what Derek presented overall was less in every department than last year except for what the Mayor added to the Streets for the emulsion.

Councilman Hirschi asked if the new officer will be part time animal control and police officer.

Chief replied that right now whoever is on duty catches the animal control call when it comes in. The officer he would like to have would be a dayshift officer trained to handle animal control as well as calls that come in during the day.

Mayor Wilson explained that the 50% wage he included in the Animal Control line is for any officer on duty that handles an animal control issue.

Chief would also like to hire a part time person Monday- Friday to make sure stuff is getting done with animal control like cleaning the kennels and handling the licensing.

Councilman Hirschi is concerned that we currently don't have an animal control officer and the police officers have to spend time dealing with those issues when they could be doing more effective things. He feels that we need to have an animal control officer.

Chief agreed that if the council chooses to not get a full time officer we definitely do need a part time animal control officer.

Chief would like one full time officer and one part time officer.

Councilman Reeve doesn't think there is enough money in the budget for that.

Councilman Hirschi agreed, there is not enough money for a full time officer.

Councilman Justice stated that we missed the COPS Grant.

Councilman Jensen agreed with Councilman Reeve and Councilman Hirschi. He also commented that he feels if we don't start doing more with the roads we will get behind and it will cost the City a lot of money. That is one of the biggest complaints he hears from citizens. He does think the police department is

extremely important but feels the roads are a bigger issue right now. We may just need to depend on the County for police assistance.

Mayor stated that under the police he has minus one full time and add paint job and asked how the council felt about the vehicle.

Councilman Jensen stated that he is for the new vehicle.

Mayor Wilson reported that takes care of approximately \$70,000. The tentative budget needs to be presented at the first meeting in May. The budget can still be changed after getting input from the public.

Councilman Justice asked if the transit tax line was the 1% that we have for La Verkin or if it includes what we get from the State. If it includes what we get from the State, when the hotel is finished that line will go up drastically.

The Mayor answered that is everything and yes it will go up, he just doesn't have any history to go by so he took what we have had.

The Mayor likes to be conservative. He recommends leaving that number alone until we see some history and then run it through a budget amendment.

Councilman Hirschi asked if there is anything left over from last year's budget.

Mayor Wilson replied that we will have some left over. He used today's numbers and explained how the Fund Equity is figured and gave an approximate number that should be available for next year.

The Mayor explained this is one of the things that have to be budgeted before you know the bottom line. He likes to start conservative and then appropriate more during a budget amendment. The only number the auditors look at is the actual expenses and revenues and fund equity at the end of the year.

Councilman Reeve asked about the line under Animal Control listed as Truck Payment.

Chief Watkins said that he would like to get a new truck for the animal control officer. He hates to volunteer that but it could be cut. This would be a used vehicle, not a new one.

Councilman Hirschi asked Derek if he would like to get a new truck.

Derek stated that he would like a new truck but would like to do it under his proposed budget on a lease program. He would like to talk to the Mayor about it and see if it could work. It would be under a five year lease, he thinks it could be done for about \$320 a month. The track hoe payment will be done after next year so that could be additional money to double up on the payment. He would like to get on a vehicle rotation program.

Mayor Wilson asked the Council if they were okay with adding the five year lease in for Derek. That will be added to the budget.

Councilman Jensen asked about the actual for the Engineer's going up.

Derek explained that the Roof project and the CIB project were added on to it and commented this has been an abnormal year in regard to the amount of projects we have had.

There will be some money coming back from the Hotel project.

Derek explained that the City pays out and then collects.

Kyle mentioned that without the Engineers we would not have gotten the Water Meter Replacement project.

Councilman Jensen commented that he is just curious on the increases that were more than a few thousand dollars.

Mayor Wilson feels that is money well spent.

Councilman Jensen asked the department heads about areas they though could be looked at.

Mayor Wilson found another \$30,000 in the Solid Waste Fund. That would put us at about \$17,000 and he thinks he can find that much. The number will probably change a little bit after the adjustments. He doesn't want to take much more out of Administration.

Councilman Reeve asked if a generator was included in this budget.

Mayor Wilson replied that it has not been.

Kyle stated that the generator information would be brought to Council at a later date. The Council had requested information on a purchasing a portable generator because our current one is not big enough to run the office.

Mayor Wilson said that he would have to go line by line to find the cuts.

Councilman Jensen pointed out the difference between the past several years and this new budget on page 5 under sports.

Mayor Wilson stated that revenues pretty much cover the sports program. The actual expenditures have been less. Usually that lines up with the revenues.

Councilman Justice commented that they are changing to a reversible jersey that will be used for all the sports. That should help with the costs.

Councilman Hirschi went over the line items on page 2 under City Council. Mayor Wilson explained what was included in those lines.

Administrative Attorney is what we pay Mr. McConkie for the Justice Court and any special council we get. Special council has dropped to almost nothing since Kevin came.

Councilman Jensen asked about Streets and Utilities on page 4.

Mayor Wilson commented that utilities are going up. There are 6 or 8 streetlights in Riverwood that are the City's responsibility.

There was a discussion on the utility payment amount for the animal shelter. Mayor Wilson explained that we are still getting the history on that.

Mayor Wilson is putting a mark by each of the lines mentioned and he will go back and re-analyze them.

Mayor Wilson will make the corrections from tonight and email them to the Councilmembers. If he doesn't hear from anyone in regard to the changes that will be what is presented as the tentative budget.



Mayor Wilson continued on with the other funds.

He explained Debt Service Fund. It is set and balanced. If anyone would like to know how those allocations are made let the Mayor know.

Capital Projects Fund has the Crescent Park in the current budget. That will have to be a budget amendment if we don't get it finished in the current year. It is a Capital Project that has already been approved.

The Water Fund on page 11 has the corrections Mayor Wilson made at the first of the meeting. If you look at the actuals we have been going negative each year. This year so far we are positive because the Water Fund Capital budget is very strong and we can budget the Operational budget that way. Also there is \$142,000 in Depreciation that is a budget amount that can be spent in that department but it shouldn't be. It goes into the Capital and the Capital Fund pays the principle on the two bonds, the Operation budget pays the interest on them. Technically there is money left over but we keep going backwards in the Capital Fund. We have done a lot of improvements on our water system and the money has been well spent but we are getting to a point that we cannot run that negative and be sustainable.

We are over budget on one line already this year on repairs. The main waterline coming out of our water tank was accidentally dug up. Just the hardware for that repair was \$2,000.

Mayor Wilson explained that he was in the office when that call came in and in two hours staff and the parts all there and the repair almost done. The entire crew was working on it, he was very impressed and pleased with the way they handled that break. That is just another reason why we should give them a little bit more flexibility in areas where the cost isn't that high. When we need them they do a great job.

Troylinn is going to hand out the finance report tonight. If you look at the regular budget report it will show we have used only 44% of that fund but if you subtract the depreciation out and do the recalculation that will give you a true picture of where we are. It puts us at about 77%. We are okay this year but we are going to need to find a way to spend less money in our water.

Mayor Wilson stated that he doesn't know where to make the cuts but we have got to whittle on that negative in the water.

Derek reported this is the worst year we have had with culinary breaks. Last year it was mainly irrigation breaks.

Mayor Wilson reported that we are a lot healthier now that we were when we had the budget problem years ago. We don't want to get there again. He feels that in water we need all of the lines budgeted but the bottom line is just too much. Something needs to be done this year. He could reallocate wages and there could be some minor adjustments made in some areas. The actuals in water are lower in Admin than is budgeted but we are catching up fast. Maintenance looks good but the depreciation needs to be subtracted out.

The connection costs are based off of history.

Derek said that if we are able to get rid of the dump trucks and get the new one there is a possibility that the 250 line could go down about \$3,000. That is how much is spent getting them ready for inspection.

Mayor Wilson will work on the wages from water.

Sewer is a pass through fund.

Irrigation's bottom line is going negative. We have been using savings to operate some of the things there. We need to start going positive to keep the savings up. This year we have bought some spare parts that hopefully won't have to be purchased next year.



The Insurance line is the Irrigation's share of the liability policy. He would like to work on this fund to get the bottom line positive. The problem is when something is taken out of a fund it has to be added someplace else.

Derek commented that by replacing the meters this might help find connections that may have been missed.

Councilman Hirschi commented that the charge for irrigation is fairly inexpensive and asked if he pays the same as the person who runs their irrigation all the time.

Mayor Wilson replied that it depends on if they own shares or not. The only way we can limit the amount of water used is if we see abuse or it is creating a health and safety issue.

Kyle mentioned if we get the Silver Acres project the irrigation revenue will go up because that area doesn't currently have it.

Drainage starts off negative each year but by the end of the year is positive. The Mayor feels comfortable with the Drainage Fund.

Cemetery is what it is. We are still building the Perpetual Care Fund but it is getting closer to what it should be. We transfer \$5,000 over to help with that.

The Mayor will take the police officer out but leave the car in. Allocate \$130,000 of Fund Allocation and find approximately \$17,000 that we are still off in the General Fund. He will look at Water and Irrigation to see if he can allocate a little bit of labor, but he doesn't think he has a lot of flexibility there. He does think there is \$30,000 that can be transferred out of the Garbage or Sewer Fund. He will check into that.

#### **H. Staff, Mayor & Council Reports:**

##### *City Administrator- Kyle Gubler*

Kyle passed out a copy of his report along with a couple of information handouts.

There are two active building permits right now and two potential.

The second floor is going up on the hotel.

Kyle attended a manager's conference for three days. One of the items discussed was how Obama Care is going to affect the City. It won't be as much as cities with 50 employees or more but it will affect us some. One of the round table discussions was on technology. They asked how many cities still used a printed agenda and we were the only one.

He attended an auditors training. They went over the updates and changes to the Legislator.

Richard Moon is who we have always dealt with from the State Auditor's office and he is retiring.

So is Lamar Sayer from the Utah State Tax Commission.

There is only one business license that is uncollected. Our new business license policy works great.

La Verkin was awarded the 2012 Tree City USA award.

##### *Public Safety- Chief Lloyd Watkins*

Chief gave a summary of the calls handled and of the training Travis was able to attend.

He thanked Councilman Hirschi for his assistance with the animal shelter and the Councilmembers for their consideration tonight.

*Director of Operations-Derek Imlay*

The Roof Project started today. It is scheduled to be finished in 30 days.

The Road Project is done with the exception of 100 E from Center to 100 S. They will be back to take care of it.

The second phase of the Water Meter Grant the City was approved for can start now instead of waiting until September. Depending on the Crescent Park Project, that may be able to start in May or June. The amount of meters put in is being raised from 25 to 50 per month.

When the main water line broke the Conservancy District was doing some work so we were getting all of our water from Cottam Well. That caused a bit of stress. He thanked the Mayor for his help in handling the manager and his crew for not only handling that break but the irrigation main line break that was reported at the same time. He also thanked Travis and the police department for their help with that issue.

The pump at Hillside Terrace did go out, that has been repaired.

*Treasurer-Troylinn Benson*

Troylinn has a new baby granddaughter born today.

Shut-offs were done yesterday. 14 residents were shut off and 2 are still off today.

She passed out the financial report.

Mayor Wilson commented that Troylinn, Christy, and Jennifer handled the from desk excellent when we had the emergencies.

*Mayor Wilson:*

1. Public Safety has been commented on.
2. HCAC is next Tuesday.
3. Confluence Park was today. Councilman Justice will report on it.
4. There have been very little complaints this year on the irrigation. As far as the citizens are concerned they have been getting better service and better water than ever before. There are still the budget issues.
5. Sewer Board meets next Thursday.
6. The Mayors Association- the COG (Council of Governments) met last night. House bill 11 authorized the COG's to determine how to spend the money. There has been a tendency to spend the money on immediate needs. They decided that money should be used for long-term corridor preservation so there will be a percentage of the money that will have to be saved for those projects. He explained some of the projects they have done recently. The rules will be changing so the money can be used for both long-term and short-term projects. This fund comes from the extra \$10 paid when you register your car. He didn't agree with the tax at first but does think the money is well spent.
7. Fire District-Chief Kuhlmann already reported on that. He thinks everything is going smoothly on the operations with the Fire District. There is still the issue with the ambulance.
8. The government structure was handed out tonight. He asked the Councilmembers to study it. On the back of it are some descriptions of the structure.  
He met with Senator Vickers to discuss the ambulance issue. Mayor Wilson thinks that The Senator will work for us on that. They also talked about the structure of government. Councilmembers need to be careful about giving directives to the staff and to not antagonize staff. If a policy needs to be changed then let's go through the procedure and do it the right way. This structure works very well in the Mayor's opinion.

*Jensen:* He feels that La Verkin City has the best employees and police officers and he appreciates working with everyone.

*Hirschi:* Attended a meeting with Chief Kuhlmann. There was a question of who, outside of St. George, the new ambulance will cover. Until Washington decides what they want to do, Hurricane Valley Fire District will cover Corral Canyon.

He commented on how well staff deals with the citizens, especially when there are complaints.

*Reeve:* Nothing to report.

*Justice:* There are still positions available in the CERT class.

Confluence Park is moving forward with installing restrooms in Hurricane at the end of Main Street. They are also looking at some property acquisition in that same area to help clean it up. They talked about camping and fire use in the park. If you want to go down to Confluence and camp you need to get permission. Fire may or may not be allowed depending on the conditions. Call Bob Sandberg with HCP to find out and for permission.

Sewer Board meets next week.

He thanked the police for their presence at the cross walk and Officer Romney for his professional manner in handling a couple of juveniles.


**Adjourn:**

**Motion was made by Councilman Ray Justice to adjourn, second by Councilman Phil Jensen.**

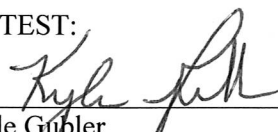
**Motion carried unanimously at 8:59pm.**

Minutes were taken on behalf of the City Recorder by Christy Ballard.

May 1, 2013  
Date Approved

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, Karl Wilson

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kyle Gubler  
City Recorder